Electric Typewriter Industry

*i2. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Electric Typewriter Industry in the Capital is still in its infancy ;

(b) the names of firms specializing in the manufacture of Electric Typewriters and their annual output ;

(c) the price of the indigenous Electric Typewriter as compared to the imported ones ;

(d) the steps taken by Government to develop the manufacture of Electric Typewriters in the country; and

(e) the details of applications pending with Government for setting up Electric Typewriter Industrial Units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) to (e) There is hardly any significant production of electric typewriters in the capital. Presumably, the intention of the Hon'ble Member is to seek information regarding the status of the electric typewriter industry in the country. The electric typewriter industry has not grown in the country, as a whole, because of the emergence of the electronic type writer, which is technologically far superior:

In the large scale sector M/s. Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd., Madras (a public sector unit under the administrative control of the Ministry of Communications) with an approved capacity of 15,000 started production in the early seventies. Due to various problems it discontinued production after some time. In 1983-84, the company, in collaboration of M/s. Olivetti of Italy, restarted the production and produced 400 electric typewriters with the help of SKD kits. The company has gone out of production thereafter.

Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation has a letter of intent for manufacture of 5,000 electric Typewriters but they have yet to fulfil the conditions of the letter of intent and start production. M/s. Logic Systems, New Delhi and M/s. Bharat Electro Devices, New Delhi in the small scale sector have approved capacities of 1000 and 150 respectively. Since they are SSI units their progress of implementation of production etc. are not monitored.

The prices of imported typewriters (including customs duty) and indigenous typewriters are around Rs. 17,000.

One application for grant of an Industrial licence for manufacture of Portable Electric (Graphic) Typewriters which was received in October, 1985 is pending decision of the Government.

Though the Government has given, through broad banding, existing licence holders and holders of letters of intent, the flexibility to take up manufacture of manual electric /electronic typewriters, in view of the technological superiority of electronic typewriters, the trend world over and lack of demand there may not be any significant increase in the manufacture of electric typewriters.

Theft of Bitumen

*13. SHRIKRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAYJOSHI :

Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 30 per cent of the bitumen sent from